SENATE, No. 2523

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 2007

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator DIANE B. ALLEN

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes 24-hour hotline for information concerning the crime of human trafficking; appropriates \$75,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S2523 T.KEAN, ALLEN

1	AN ACT concerning human trafficking and supplementing Title	e 52
2	of the Revised Statutes.	

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

 1. The Attorney General shall establish and maintain on a 24-hour daily basis a toll-free hotline telephone service and shall take appropriate steps to publicize the hotline. The hotline shall receive information from members of the public who have knowledge of or who believe that an act of human trafficking in violation of P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8) is being or has been committed. The hotline shall also receive and respond to requests for information from members of the public concerning human trafficking.

2. The Attorney General shall establish an educational and public information program concerning the crime of human trafficking set out in P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8).

3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of the Attorney General the amount of \$75,000 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

 P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8) established the new crime of human trafficking. This crime concerns using a person for the purposes of engaging in unlawful sexual activity or providing unlawful labor or services. These activities represent a modern form of slavery, in which increasing numbers of persons, primarily women and children, are trafficked across international borders and into this State.

This bill would require the Attorney General to establish and maintain a 24-hour toll-free telephone hotline to receive information from members of the public who have knowledge of or who believe that an act of human trafficking is being or has been committed. The hotline would also receive and respond to requests for information from members of the public concerning human trafficking. In addition, the bill would require the Attorney General to establish an educational and public information program concerning the crime of human trafficking.

The sponsor recognizes that the Division of Criminal Justice has worked with members of the Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force and federal authorities to initiate private human trafficking hotlines in New Jersey. To further the work of those entities,

S2523 T.KEAN, ALLEN

3

- 1 organizations and individuals involved in the establishment of those
- 2 hotlines, this bill would statutorily establish a Statewide hotline and
- 3 provide funding to ensure that the hotline is appropriately
- 4 publicized.
- 5 The bill would appropriate \$75,000 to the Office of the Attorney
- 6 General for these purposes.